

What is Claimed Is:

1. A method of communicating information between heterogenous systems, the method comprising:

5 at least one of:

acting as a subscriber on a first network including a publisher/subscriber architecture for an entity on a second network, accepting a first information from the first network according to the subscription, and transmitting the first information to the entity, and

10 accepting a second information from the entity, and acting as a publisher of the second information for the first entity.

2. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising time division multiplexing information with the entity.

15 3. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising fusing the first information and a third information and transmitting the fused information.

20 4. The method according to Claim 3, wherein the first and the third informations are transmitted at different rates.

25 5. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising translating the first information from a protocol associated with the first information and a second protocol associated with the second information, the first and the second protocols being different.

6. The method according to Claim 5, wherein the first protocol is a TDM protocol and the second protocol is an Internet Protocol.

30 7. The method according to Claim 5, further comprising using XML to translate between the first protocol and the second protocol.

8. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising validating the second information by comparing the protocol associated with the second information against an expected protocol for the second information.

5 9. The method according to Claim 8, wherein the validating further comprises using an XSD schema.

10. The method according to Claim 8, further comprising ignoring subsequent messages from the same source if the validation failed.

10 11. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising accepting a request for a changed subscription from the entity and changing the subscription, whereby dynamic subscription registration occurs.

15 12. An agent, to be interposed between a first network and a second network, the agent comprising:

an interface to an entity, the entity interface including a first protocol for communicating with the entity over the first network; and

20 an interface to a publisher/subscriber architecture on the second network, the publish/subscribe interface to include a service to act as a publisher for the entity and a service to act as a subscriber for the entity.

25 13. The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising a translator to translate between the first protocol and a second protocol associated with the second network, the first and the second protocols being different.

14. The agent according to Claim 12, wherein the translator being based on XML.

30 15. The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising an information fuser wherein the fuser to fuse information from at least two sources, the sources being associated with at least one of the first network and the second network.

16. The agent according to Claim 15, wherein the fuser being configured to accept information from the first and second sources at different rates.

17. The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising, a registration manager to
5 register the first entity as at least one of a publisher and a subscriber.

18. The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising, a validation manager to validate information received from the second network.

10 19. The agent according to Claim 18, wherein the validation manager to validate the information by comparing the protocol associated with the information received from the second network with an expected protocol for information received from the second network.

20. The agent according to Claim 19, further comprising an XSD schema used by
15 the validation manager to validate the information received from the second network.

21. The agent according to Claim 12, wherein the entity interface is a TDM interface.

20 22. The agent according to Claim 12, wherein the second network interface includes an Internet interface.

23. The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising being implemented in at least one of hardware, firmware, and software.

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24. A communications network, comprising
a first network having a first protocol;
an entity configured to use the first protocol to communicate over the first network;
and

30 an agent associated with the first network interposed between the first network and a second network including a publisher/subscriber architecture, the agent to act as at least one of:

a publisher for the entity for a first information to be transmitted by the entity,
and

a subscriber for the entity for a second information to be transmitted to the
agent.

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25. The network according to Claim 24, further comprising:

a third network in communication with the second network and providing the second
information.

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26. The network according to Claim 24, further comprising:

a third network in communication with the second network and subscribing for the
first information.

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27. The network according to Claim 24, wherein the first protocol is a TDM

protocol.

28. The network according to Claim 27, wherein the first protocol is TADIL-J.

29. The network according to Claim 27, wherein the first protocol is VMF.

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30. The network according to Claim 24, the agent further comprising an translator
for translating between the first protocol and a second protocol.

31. The network according to Claim 30, wherein the translator is based on XML.

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32. The network according to Claim 24, wherein the first network is associated
with a mobile platform.

33. The network according to Claim 32, wherein the mobile platform is an
aircraft.

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34. The network according to Claim 24, the agent further comprising a validation manager to validate information received from the second network by comparing a protocol associated with the information received from the second network with an XSD schema.

5 35. The network according to Claim 24 wherein the first protocol is custom to the first network.